**McMahon, Robert J. “Changing Interpretations of the Vietnam War.” *The Oxford Companion to American Military History*. Ed. John W. Chambers. New York: Oxford University Press, 1999.**

Why does McMahon claim that interpretations of the Vietnam War “departed significantly” from assessments of earlier wars?

Summarize the “liberal realist” analysis of the war.

Describe the “radical neo-Marxist” analysis of the war.

How does the “conservative revisionist” perspective of the war differ from the “liberal realist” analysis? What seems to be McMahon’s evaluation of the revisionist perspective?

How does the author explain the persistence of the debate about the Vietnam conflict?

**Morris, Errol. *The Fog of War: Eleven Lessons from the Life of Robert S. McNamara*. Sony Pictures, 2003.**

First Impressions –

Cuban Missile Crisis

* Lesson #1: Empathize with your enemy.
* Lesson #2: Rationality will not save us.

World War II

* Lesson #3: There’s something beyond oneself.
* Lesson #4: Maximize efficiency.
* Lesson #5: Proportionality should be a guideline in war.

Vietnam

* Lesson #6: Get the data.
* Lesson #7: Belief and seeing are often wrong.
* Lesson #8: Be prepared to reexamine your reasoning.
* Lesson #9: In order to do good, you may have to engage in evil.
* Lesson #10: Never say never.
* Lesson #11: You can’t change human nature.
* Epilogue

Discuss your impressions, reactions, arguments, and questions about this film and/or the Vietnam War.

Did you have any assumptions that were challenged by the perspective offered in the film?